

County Commissioner

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No. 1

Anent the Conversion of Orchard.

BY LEO.

Orchard is the confessed multi-murderer of Idaho, who having, as he claims, experienced religion, turned State's evidence, and gave testimony in court relative to the slaying of so many as the agent of the miner's union. If he told the truth, of which there is much doubting, the miners of Idaho have committed many horrible crimes; crimes so damning that the recital of them sent a thrill of horror throughout the land. Orchard's testimony is the chief reliance of the prosecution in the trial now going on in the capital of Idaho, and naturally enough, the defense is making a desperate effort to show that the prosecuting witness is a monumental liar—that though he may have committed some murders, yet his testimony is a huge lie.

Be that as it may, what concerns us in this article is the man's conversion, or let us say, his alleged conversion. His word as to that is to the effect that a good man handed him a Bible, talked to him about his soul's welfare, here and hereafter, and that he experienced a change of heart and became a Christian.

There is a general disposition to question the man's change, that his alleged conversion is a mere pretext to be rid of the law's penalty for murdering the governor of Idaho, and some other crimes of horrid hue.

Of course, we do not know if the man is sincere or not; but we wish to say that his conversion is by no means an impossible experience, and neither is it a unique experience. Many a bad man has experienced a change of heart, becoming quite religious and showing all the marks of a genuine conversion in life.

Our readers will recall the celebrated apostle Paul, who, while a Saul of Tarsus, was a wicked persecutor of the early Christians, haling them to prison and compelling them to blasphemy. But while on his way to Damascus to persecute the saints, and "breathing out threatening and slaughter" against Christians, suddenly his heart was changed, he became, to use his own words, "a new creature in Christ Jesus," and a most zealous missionary of the Lord.

No one can doubt the reality of Paul's conversion, and possibly Orchard too has been truly converted. Anyway, we must not go back on the old hymn,

"And while the lamp holds out to burn
The vilest sinner may return."

Another instance in point: Our readers will recall the thief on the cross who uttered the prayer to his fellow-sufferer, "Lord, remember me when thou comest in to thy kingdom;" to which prayer the Lord said, "Today shalt thou be with me in paradise." There is no doubt of that man's conversion. Of course, we do not know what crimes he had committed. Perhaps none, but some political crimes, and perhaps crimes of blacker color, any way, on the cross his heart was changed and he too became a new man in Christ Jesus.

Now we do not vouch for the reality of Orchard's conversion. He may be feigning for effect; but we know the change which he professes is very possible.

The business of the Christian religion on earth is to deliver souls from their sins, not from

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consequences of wrong doing, and a great sinner may repent and change as truly as his brother of better life.

We have heard sneers at the conversion of the great criminal Orchard, as if such a vile man must always abide in his sin. We would be glad to know that there is sincerity in the man's confession, and that though he may be punished for his crimes against his fellow-men the merciful Father has forgiven him because of his penitence, and the new life just begun in his soul will develop grandly here and hereafter.

Cured of Lung Trouble.

"It is now eleven years since I had a narrow escape from consumption," writes C. O. Floyd, a leading business man of Kershaw, S. C. "I had run down in weight to 135 pounds, and coughing was constant, both by day and by night. Finally I began taking Dr. King's New Discovery, and continued this for about six months, when my cough and lung trouble were entirely gone and I was restored to my normal weight, 170 pounds." Thousands of persons are healed every year. Guaranteed at Wm. Kipp's Sons' drug store. 50c and \$1.00. Trial bottle free.

Fort Jefferson.

The M. E. church was struck by lightning last Wednesday afternoon and some of the roof was torn off the belfry and the banister in the belfry was torn to pieces. However, no damage was done to the inside of the church. The same afternoon the barn on the Dr. Robeson farm was struck by lightning, doing quite a bit of damage.

Jim Hood and wife, Charles Bubenmyer and wife and Mrs. Lydia Bubenmyer were at Union City Sunday, the guests of Mrs. Bubenmyer's son Frank and family.

Miss Merle Crawford of Savona spent Sunday with her grandparents, Thomas Jenkinson's.

Miss Clara Reigle has gone to New Madison for the week.

Ray Elliott and wife took dinner with Mrs. Florence Fitzgerald Friday.

Mrs. Belle Sentman and daughter Areta have gone to Indianapolis for a short visit with John Fitzgerald and family.

Will Becker, wife and son Paul and Miss Lou Pawden are here from Indianapolis visiting Mrs. Hunter and Mrs. Riley.

Charles Baum and wife of Dayton are the guests of J. C. Baum's. Pail Townsend took his lady friend out riding last evening in a nice new rig. He lost his valuable driver in the fire when his father's barn burned.

Grandmother North took dinner with Mrs. J. W. Viets last Wednesday.

James Stewart and wife had for their guests Sunday, Frank Stewart, wife and son, of Nogale; Miss Lily Stewart of Beech Grove and Bill Beck and wife of Weaver Station.

Lester Schlechty, Billy Lease and Leonard Longfellow took in

the festival at Castile Saturday evening.

Mrs. J. W. Viets and daughter Nellie called on friends at Beech Grove Sunday afternoon.

Joe O'Brien of Greenville was here Saturday evening looking over the ground around the old Fort where the Historical Society has decided to erect a monument in September in honor of General St. Clair and to mark the site of the old Fort.

July 15.

VENUS.

CASTORIA.
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Yellow Leaf in Oats.

Reports received by the Ohio Experiment Station indicate a general prevalence over the state of an abnormal condition of oats, shown by many of the blades turning yellow, or reddish yellow, in spots or streaks, and finally dying at the tips or throughout the entire length.

A similar condition was manifested by the oat crop of Ohio and farther west in 1890, followed by a considerable reduction in yield, and such a condition is reported by the Connecticut Experiment Station as occurring in that state in 1906.

The attack of 1890 was pronounced by the Division of Vegetable Pathology, U. S. Department of Agriculture, to be due to bacterial infection. The Connecticut Station failed to find evidence of such infection last year, and we have not yet found conclusive evidence of such infection in the present attack.

In the case of the present attack plant lice have been mentioned by many observers as being unusually abundant on oats, but we have not as yet found conclusive evidence as to whether they have, or have not, borne an important part in the spread of the trouble. We know of no remedy or prevention.

In all cases similar weather conditions have been observed, namely: excess of cold, rainy weather, followed by hot sunshine, and it appears that these conditions have been the chief factors in producing the outbreak.

In this connection the following extract from the report of this Station for 1890 (it being then located at Columbus) may be of interest:

"The spring of 1890 was very unfavorable to farming operations throughout the greater portion of Ohio, on account of almost incessant rains. The planting of corn, oats and potatoes was generally delayed, and cultivation was much interfered with until after the middle of June. On the Station farm oats and potatoes were planted late, and both crops suffered so much from blight that not half an average yield was obtained."

CHAS. E. THORNE, Director.

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See Clubbing List.

WASHINGTON LETTER.

This is bad weather for monopolies in restraint of trade. No sooner has the government outlined the scheme of a receivership for lawbreaking trusts than there comes another announcement of a plan that the president has been working over for some time which is to make the government part owner of the railroads and have a government representative on the board of directors of each of the principal lines. This is really about the neatest, most up-to-date and inexpensive scheme that has been broached yet. It makes the government part owner of the railroads, a minority stockholder, in fact, and puts the federal authorities in position to know what is going on inside the directorate without saddling the government with the burden of direct ownership and without eliminating the much vaunted "private brain" which is always advanced by railroad officials as a sufficient reason why the roads can be run better under private than under government ownership.

The plan as outlined by some of the people who have talked with the president at Oyster Bay is simple in the extreme. It is simply for the government to buy a certain amount of stock in the big roads in the open market. It would not have to be a large amount, considering the influence of the federal authorities to insure the election of a government director on the board of each of the big trunk lines. Such a director would have to be a picked man, one of ability coupled with unquestioned honesty. Being a party to the meetings of the board, he would be in a position to know what was being done and would be able to advise the Department of Justice of anything unlawful that the railroad either had done or contemplated doing. There could be no reasonable objection on the part of the railroads to such government representation, for the only object of such a man would be to report railroad law breaking. Of course, the railroads cannot confess that they ever want to break the law, so they could make no logical objection to the presence of an official whose business was to see that they did not. Congress would, of course, have to appropriate the money to buy stock, but it is not likely that Congress would raise any objection to an expenditure of this sort.

The periodical announcement has come to the War department, not officially, but by way of the newspapers, of the arrest of a Japanese spy who has been sketching the coast defenses. This time the spy has been caught in Ft. Rosecrans, at San Diego, Cal. Possibly it is the same spy who has been caught by the papers so often before. If it is, he ought by this time to have quite a large and interesting portfolio of American coast defense plans. He has been caught, granting, of course, that it is the same spy, at Manila, Fortress Monroe, Ft. McHenry and one or two other places. He has always had to be let go because there was no law to punish a man for making sketches of American forts. But it only shows how active Japanese spies are (in jingo newspapers), for the same sort of a capture occurs almost regularly about three times a month. The only curious part of the story is that it never gets officially reported to the War department, which is the first thing that would be done if the capture were ever really made.

Along with the war scare an-

nouncement of the capture of the Japanese spy, comes a very pacific speech from the Japanese admiral, Baron Yamamoto, who lunched with the president last week and was entertained at a big peace banquet in New York. Baron Yamamoto is, almost the ranking admiral of the Japanese navy. He has been on a tour of Europe with a very distinguished staff comprising a number of high naval officers and princes more or less closely connected with the throne. He has seen all of the latest developments in the European navies, and is stopping in this country to find out what the United States is doing while on his way back to Japan.

He made a very agreeable after-dinner speech in the presence of Admiral Evans, Admiral Coghlan, Stewart L. Woodford, and a number of other leading Americans. The burden of his talk was that the United States had been the first friend of Japan among the western nations. We had opened up the country to western civilization, and Japan had us to thank for her material progress of the past half century. The Japanese people were grateful and did not even like the thought of these long existing ties of friendship being broken, and so far as Japan was concerned, the present friction over events on the Pacific Coast could never develop into armed hostilities. The conclusion of this was true enough, for several good and sufficient reasons, the chief of which is that Japan is neither physically nor financially able to fight. Moreover, there is nothing to fight about. Finally the Hague Conference has decided there must be a declaration before hostilities, and this will balk Japanese tactics.

Rather a curious state of affairs has developed in the Smithsonian, where there is some indication of the institution being eaten up by some of its own collections. The enemy is nothing less than the white ant. The Smithsonian has animals and insects of all sorts brought from the four quarters of the earth for exhibition and study. There have been several importations of white ants, and it seems that some of them must have gotten loose in the building and found comfortable quarters through the winter in the neighborhood of the steam pipes. They have increased greatly, and following their natural habits have burrowed out nests in the most conveniently located woodwork. Tables and chairs have been attacked and in some cases fairly riddled before it was discovered what was the matter. Indeed, it would not have been discovered, except for a rather stout female employee who sat down too vigorously in one of the chairs. It went to pieces with her, and inspection showed that the ants had made a perfect shell of the woodwork. It is hard to tell just how much damage has been done, as the ants work from the heart of the wood outward, but the discovery has set the major part of the force ant-catching with anything but scientific ardor.

How to Cure Chills.

"To enjoy freedom from chills," writes John Kemp, East Otisfield, Me., "I apply Bucklen's Arnica Salve. Have also used it for salt rheum with excellent results." Guaranteed to cure fever sores, indolent ulcers, piles, burns, wounds, frost bites and skin diseases. 25c at Wm. Kipp's Sons' drug store.

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Gettysburg.

Very little wheat is cut and this week will not see the end of wheat cutting, if delayed until ripe. Very little, if any, is ripe enough now to cut. The wet weather retards ripening. It can be said, however, that the weather is favorable for growth of vegetation, and setting out of tobacco plants. Of the latter there is still some to plant; tho' late as it is—I presume there will be some omission in planting the acreage planned.

Miss Hazel Nease returned home last Saturday from her visit among relatives at Columbus.

Elmer Williams and wife and Marshal Stone of Bradford attended divine service here yesterday afternoon.

Lewis Erisman, wife and children, were visitors here yesterday and attended divine services in our M. E. church.

Fourth quarterly meeting of our M. E. church was held yesterday, Presiding Elder C. R. Havighorst officiating, and delivered a very earnest and able sermon to an appreciative audience.

Our M. E. young ladies will give a festival, serving choice viands, next Saturday night in our Armory hall. Let there be a generous support to encourage the young ladies in their laudable venture.

Harry Myers is nursing an injured ankle, but as he acquired it in a good cause he is the more able to endure the suffering without a murmur.

Jacob Loughman was the victim of a fall from his haymow, in which he suffered some broken bones and serious bruises.

A young man of near Pittsburg, driving a fractious team of horses through our village last Friday afternoon, received a broken ankle as the result of the viciousness of one of his horses.

John H. Cain, an old resident of the neighborhood south from here a couple of miles, died last Saturday. Interment today in cemetery at this place, funeral services conducted by Rev. DeK. Judy from the Beech Grove church. He leaves a wife and a large family of children grown to manhood to mourn their loss.

C. L. Dershem, wife and his mother were visitors among relatives at Versailles yesterday.

J. H. Browder was here last week looking for a house in which to live while superintending our academy the ensuing year.

July 15.

XOB

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A WARNING TO MOTHERS.

Bowleggedness Caused by Making Children Walk Too Soon.

Too many parents make the mistake of encouraging their children to walk before the little legs are ready to bear the youngster's weight. Backward babies are the exception, and even where they may seem so it is probable that nature knows best and that the child will be eager to walk as soon as it is a physical possibility. Nearly all bowleggedness is caused by this overanxiety of parents, and even greater harm may be done to the soft bones and tender muscles.

Once the baby does begin to walk, provide a contrivance of some sort to aid him in his new found accomplishment. The so called "baby tenders" are excellent and serve well during the transition from the creeping to the walking stage.

See, too, that the baby's shoes are of a sort to endure good use. The paper soled booties of his earlier days must now be discarded and tiny leather shoes procured instead. If he has the slightest tendency to weak ankles, buy the specially stiffened shoes made to remedy this, and in this case keep him from walking as far as possible until they become stronger.

Let him walk indoors entirely at first. Postpone his first outdoor journey until some warm, pleasant spring or summer day. And let it be a very long time indeed before you let him navigate the stairs by himself. The slightest misstep might cause a serious fall.

TO IRON LACE.

Press Between Muslin, Not Touched With Bare Metal.

One of the points to remember when ironing lace is to iron it well to the width, so that the whole design of the lace will show clear and distinct and look as like the new material as possible.

To do this the lace must be carefully pulled to the width and then placed on the table wrong side up and ironed along the straight edge, holding the lace up in front of the iron so that the toe of the iron may press the lace to the width and also keep the selvage straight.

Again place the lace flat on the table and iron across the width, pressing the toe of the iron into each point until it is quite dry. If the lace has a raised pattern, a thick piece of felt or three folds of ordinary blanket may be slipped under the ironing sheet and the lace ironed over it. This will raise the work considerably.

Very fine lace should be ironed through muslin and never touched with the bare metal.

HOUSEHOLD NOTES.

A brush dipped in salt water should be used in cleaning bamboo furniture. Paint brushes can be cleaned by washing in hot soda water and soft soap.

White paint should be cleaned with warm water, using a little whiting on the cloth, then rinsing with clear water.

Potatoes will bake more quickly if boiled in salted water for ten minutes, then put in the oven. The boiling water will heat them through so they cook in a short time.

The scrapings of a jam pot, about one tablespoonful, if heated, with the addition of two teaspoonfuls of hot water and the same of lemon juice, make excellent sauce for a boiled pudding.

By cutting old potatoes into small balls, allowing them to soak for three or four hours in cold water, then boiling in cold salted water and serving with cream sauce, a good substitute for new potatoes is obtained.

Pretty Wall Paper.

When pretty sprigged and dainty wall papers can be purchased for 10 cents a roll, there is not often an excuse for ugly walls in a bedroom. If one selects first the wall paper and carries the suggestion of its color and design into the furnishings of the room, one need not be at a loss to secure a charming effect.

One room in which this cheap wall paper was used was made as artistic and attractive as many a more expensively furnished room. The wall paper chosen had a light pastel blue ground sprinkled over with short stemmed daisies with yellow centers.

With infinite taste the furnisher used this daisy for a keynote in her furnishings. On the dressing table there is a ruffled cover of white muslin. The light blue, white enameled furniture or maple might be used with just as good effect.

Friday Dish.

Codfish Omelet on Toast—Make a rich cream sauce of one tablespoonful of flour, two tablespoonfuls of butter and three-fourths of a cupful of thin cream, cooked together until thick and smooth. Add two-thirds of a cupful of finely minced parsley and a salt-spoonful of paprika. Cook for five minutes, take from fire, stir in five eggs beaten to a foam and turn into a buttered omelet pan. Stir until the mixture begins to harden on the edge, then heap on slices of toast which have been dipped for a moment in hot water. Butter generously and place in a heated serving dish.

Grape Sponge.

Dissolve one cup grape jelly in a cup of hot water. Put on stove for half an hour. Soak in cold water two tablespoonfuls of gelatin. Add the hot jelly water to the gelatin, stir until dissolved and then set to cool. Beat in the white of one egg, a tablespoonful of sugar and wine to flavor, then beat vigorously until stiff and spongy.